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collector assured a botanical friend that I was mistaken in my judgment. I now believe that the suspicion was wholly groundless, and this belief is confirmed by the discovery, in my herbarium, of another unnamed specimen of the very same fern, collected by Mrs. E. J. Spence, near Springfield, Ohio, and sent me by Dr. Beardslee, of Painesville, in 1871, as one of the plants of the State.

The specimens agree closely with *Asplenium Halleri*, of Europe, except that the mucronate-spinulose tips of the divisions of the pinnæ are somewhat longer.

Against its admission into our flora no good reason can be urged on the score of improbability, for its congeners and near allies, the little rock-ferns of the old world, *A. Trichomanes*, *A. viride* and *A. Ruta-muraria*, occur here also. Because of common resemblance, as well as its small size and rarity, it has, perhaps, been often overlooked. Sought for, with intent to find, it will no doubt yet be detected at other points in our territory, and a full supply obtained.

In this connection I may mention that *Asplenium Bradleyi*, D. C. Eaton, has recently been discovered in Lancaster County, Penn., by Mr. John K. Small—a remarkable extension of its range to the north and east. But, when it is known that the same enthusiastic young botanist has also discovered in the same region a considerable number of stations for its usual associates, *A. montanum* and *A. pinnatifidum*, it need awaken no surprise.

THOS. C. PORTER.

### Botanical Notes.

*Contributions from the National Herbarium.* Under the above title an important serial publication has been begun by the Division of Botany of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. It is designed to afford a place for the presentation of the valuable results now being obtained by the botanists of the Department and others who may be especially employed to study the large collections made by the special agents now in the field in various parts of the country. Two numbers have already been printed. The first contains an account of Dr. Edward Palmer's collections in the Southwest by Dr. Vasey and Mr. Rose; the

second an enumeration of Mr. G. C. Nealley's collections during the past three years in southwestern Texas by Dr. Coulter.

### Reviews of Foreign Literature.

*Della presenza di Stipole nella Lonicera cœrulea.* Nota di S. Sommier, (Nuovo Gior. Bot. Italiano, April, '90).

In this article the author describes a form of *Lonicera*, called by him *L. cœrulea*, *L. forma stipuligera* which he collected in Western Siberia, and which in his specimens unite the forms of the species heretofore known as *a glabrescens*, Rupr., *β villosa*, Torrey and Gray, and *γ edulis*, Turcz., with elliptical, ovate or obovate leaves varying as to size, and both villous or glabrous, most of the specimens having well developed interpetiolar stipules. When young they are merely foliaceous expansions that unite the two opposing petioles, making a more or less circular disk. This disk, called by Sig. Sommier "stipular disk" was in some plants slightly developed, in others attaining nearly 11 mm., and when young is of the same color, consistency, etc., as the leaves; later they turn the color of the woody stem, and are persistent after the fall of the leaves.

These stipules bear a strong resemblance to those of *Pentaptyxis stipulata* and *Lycesteria glaucophylla*, especially to those of the latter plant, which is described in the Flora of British India as having stipules "entirely absent or more or less developed into a small semi-circular coriaceous lamina." In *Lonicera Californica*, Torr. and Gray, the superior leaves are connate like those of *Lonicera Caprifolium*, the lower ones having detached appendages (called stipuliform appendages in the Flora of North America) that correspond as perfectly to the disk of *L. cœrulea* as to the appendages called stipules by Hooker and Thomson in *Pentaptyxis*. In *L. Californica* it is hard to say whether the stipuliform appendages attaching themselves to the bases of the upper leaves, form the perfoliate disk or whether the connate leaves lobed at their bases are the origin of the stipuliform appendages.

Sig. Sommier suggests that, as there is an ever increasing number of species, genera and orders, formerly thought exstipulate, in which stipules, either rudimentary or in a single stage of the development of the plant, are being found, this might be an